Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 09174 041223Z

55
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W
---------- 002128
R 031536Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8199
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO
USEC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 9174

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SP
SUBJECT: JUAN CARLOS CONTINUES HIS DOMESTIC TRAVELS

1. SINCE RETURNING FROM FRANCE, KING JUAN CARLOS HAS KEPT UP HIS DOMESTIC TRAVELS. ALWAYS ACCOMPANIED BY QUEEN SOFIA, HE FIRST VISITED TOLEDO, WHERE TO JUDGE FROM THE MEDIA COVERAGE HE RECEIVED A TUMULTUOUS WELCOME AND MORE RECENTLY HAS BEEN VISITING THE VALENCIA REGION FOR THE LAST FOUR DAYS. THE VISIT HAS INCLUDED THE USUAL MIX OF FORMAL ACTS, THE MEETINGS WITH OFFICIALS, AND PUBLIC APPEARANCES, AND THE PRESS HAS BEEN UNANIMOUS IN REPORTING THE ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC RECEPTION.

2. IN SUCH TRAVELS, AND PARTICULARLY WITH THE REFERENDUM COMINF UP, THE KING IS EFFECTIVELY BOTH DEMONSTRATING THE POPULARITY HE AND THE QUEEN ENJOY, AND USING IT ON BEHALF OF REFORM. HIS REMARKS OF COURSE DO NOT ADDRESS SO SPECIFIC A SUBJECT DIRECTLY, BUT WHEN HE SPEAKS OF THE "PATH TO
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PAGE 02 MADRID 09174 041223Z

LIBERTY" THE MESSAGE IS PLAIN ENOUGH: AND THE FACT THAT

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

ONE OR ANOTHER CABINET MINISTER ACCOMPANIES HIM CERTAINLY
DOES THE SUAREZ GOVERNMENT HO HARM.

3. HIS TRAVELS IN SPAIN TOUCH OF COURSE UPON REGIONAL
ISSUES, WHICH HE SKIRTS ADDRESSING DEFINITIVELY BUT
REGARDING WHICH HE SHOWS A DEFT POLITICAL TOUCH, SLAUTING
THE REGIONS CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPAIN AND MAKING SOME OF
HIS REMARKS IN THE LOCAL LANGUAGE,BUT ALWAYS PRESERVING THE
CONTEXT OF A UNITED SPAIN.STABLER

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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